

## Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-12 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02

STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

RSR-01 AGR-20 TAR-02 /192 W  
----- 066950

R 301547 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6751

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E. O. 11652 N/ A

TAGS: ECON EEC OVIP ETRD EAGR DA JA

SUBJECT: DANISH VIEWS ON EC ISSUES; FOREIGN ECONOMIC MINISTER  
NORGAARD' S PROPOSED VISIT TO US

BEGIN SUMMARY. MARCH 28-29 ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMSTRONG  
VISIT TO COPENHAGEN PROVIDED FOR USEFUL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON  
TRADE BILL AND US- EC ISSUES . FOREIGN ECONOMIC MINISTER  
NORGAARD, WHO WILL ASSUME EC COUNCIL PRESIDENCY JULY 1,  
PROPOSED VISIT TO WASHINGTON DURING WEEK OF MAY 7, AND  
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ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMSTRONG AGREED TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITIES  
IN WASHINGTON UPON HIS RETURN AND ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE RESPONSE

BY END OF NEXT WEEK. END SUMMARY.

1. HIGH RANKING DANISH OFFICIALS, PARTICIPATING IN SERIES OF INFORMAL TALKS, WERE OBVIOUSLY PLEASED WITH OPPORTUNITY FOR EXCHANGES WHICH ARMSTRONG VISIT PROVIDED. UPPERMOST ON FOREIGN ECONOMIC MINISTER IVAR NORGAAARD'S MIND ( HE CHAIRED BASIC MEETING AND HOSTED WORKING LUNCH) WAS HIS PLANNED VISIT TO WASHINGTON PRIOR TO HIS ASSUMPTION OF EC COUNCIL PRESIDENCY. ARMSTRONG SAID VISIT WOULD BE WELCOMED BY WASHINGTON OFFICIALS AND, AFTER SEVERAL DATES WERE DISCUSSED, AGREED TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES FOR SEVERAL DAYS' VISIT DURING WEEK OF MAY 7. IT WAS TENTATIVELY AGREED THAT, IN ADDITION TO CONSIDERING MEETINGS WITH STATE, TREASURY, COMMERCE, WHITE HOUSE, AND STR OFFICIALS, ADVISABILITY OF MEETINGS WITH CONGRESSIONAL OFFICIALS ( CHAIRMAN MILLS AND, POSSIBLY, SENATOR LONG) BE EXPLORED. NORGAAARD ALSO PROPOSED HE BRING WORKING LEVEL OFFICIALS ALONG FOR SEPARATE, AND MORE DETAILED, DISCUSSIONS WITH WASHINGTON COUNTERPARTS. ARMSTRONG AGREED TO CONSIDER AND HOPED HE WOULD BE ABLE TO GIVE RESPONSE ON TIMING OF VISIT BY END OF NEXT WEEK. ( NORGAAARD ALSO CONSIDERING STOPS IN NEW YORK, CHICAGO AND CANADA DURING TRIP.)

2. IN COURSE OF VISIT, ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMSTRONG REVIEWED OUTSTANDING US- EC ISSUES AND BRIEFED DANES ON TRADE BILL. MINISTER NORGAAARD SAID THAT IN ALMOST ALL CASES DANES IN AGREEMENT WITH US POSITIONS. HIGHLIGHTS OF NORGAAARD'S COMMENTS FOLLOW:

( A) DENMARK STRONGLY DESIRES GREATER TRADE LIBERALIZATION. ON INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS, IT HAS STOOD ALONE IN EC COUNCILS IN PROPOSING ZERO TARIFFS AS A GOAL. WHILE RECALLING THAT SOME US OFFICIALS HAD ALSO TALKED OF THE SAME GOAL, HE WONDERED HOW SERIOUS WE WERE. ( ARMSTRONG NOTED THAT WE ARE ASKING FOR AUTHORITY TO GO TO ZERO IN THE TRADE BILL. )

( B) DANES AWARE OF NEED FOR SAFEGUARDS, BUT FEEL THESE ARE LESS IMPORTANT THAN " COMPELLING" NEED FOR FURTHER MOVEMENT ON TRADE LIBERALIZATION. ( ARMSTRONG POINTED TO RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SAFEGUARDS AND SIGNIFICANT LIBERALIZATION.)  
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( C) ON AGRICULTURE, NORGAAARD SAID IT " NOT SO DIFFICULT" FOR DENMARK TO SUPPORT REDUCTION IN TRADE BARRIERS SINCE IT HAS SOPHISTICATED AGRICULTURAL ECONOMY SPECIALIZING IN PROCESSED FOOD PRODUCTS. IT COULD, FOR EXAMPLE, ACCEPT ARRANGEMENT WHICH WOULD HAVE EFFECT OF OPENING COMMUNITY TO GREATER US GRAIN EXPORTS AND US TO GREATER COMMUNITY PROCESSED FOOD EXPORTS. HE THOUGHT THAT LIMITED RECIPROCAL REMOVAL OF RESTRICTIONS OF THIS NATURE OFFERED PROMISE IN UPCOMING TRADE TALKS AND WELCOMED

ASSURANCES THAT US NOT ENGAGED IN HEAD- ON CONFRONTATION WITH WHOLE CAP SYSTEM. BEST PROSPECT WAS FOR START OF MOVEMENT TOWARD LESS PROTECTION, BUT IN ENVIRONMENT PERMITTING MAINTENANCE OF CAP AT MORE RESONABLE LEVEL. SPECIFICALLY ON CITRUS PRODUCTS, NORGAARD SAID IT EASY FOR DENMARK TO AGREE WITH US SINCE IT DOES NOT PRODUCE ANY.

(D) NORGAARD SAID HE UNDERSTANDS REASONS WHY US " RHETORIC" ON TRADE ISSUES LIKELY TO BE OCCASIONALLY OUTSPOKEN OVER COMING MONTHS. ON WHOLE, HE AGREES WITH SOAMES THAT THERE REASON TO BE OPTIMISTIC ABOUT US POSITION ON TRADE LIBERALIZATION. HE SAID HE WAS PARTICULARLY STRUCK BY ARMSTRONG COMMENT THAT US HAS NO INTENTION OF USING TRADE NEGOTIATIONS TO OBTAIN IMPROVEMENT FOR ITS BALANCE OF PAYMENTS POSITION. THIS POSSIBILITY, HE SAID, HAD GIVEN DANES SOME CONCERN.

3. ARMSTRONG BRIEFED DANES ON US POSITION ON PREFERENCE ISSUE. THEY FOUND IT INTERESTING, NOTED THEIR PHILOSOPHICAL AVERSION TO REVERSE PREFERENCEES AND OBSERVED ( IN SIDE- TALK WITH ECONOFF) THAT THEIR POSITION SIMILAR TO GERMANS AND, HENCE, CLOSE TO OURS. HOWEVER, THEY SAW PROBLEMS IN OBTAINING AN EC CONSENSUS AND WERE GENERALLY NONCOMMITAL.

4. DANES WERE INTERESTED IN TALKING ABOUT JAPAN AND EXTENT TO WHICH IT CAN BE INDUCED TO MAKE INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES NECESSARY TO PERMIT REDUCTION IN MASSIVE BILATERAL US TRADE DEFICIT AND AVOID SIMILAR JAPANESE TRADE OFFENSIVE IN COMMUNITY. ARMSTRONG AGREED THIS IS PROBLEM, BUT WAS CONVINCED THAT COMBINATION OF JAPANESE REALIZATION THAT THEY MUST CHANGE PRACTICES AND INTERNAL INCREASES IN JAPANESE ECONOMIC " INEFFICIENCIES" INDICATED PROBLEM COULD BE HANDLED. HE UNDERLINED THAT SECURITY, WHICH AN ADEQUATE SYSTEM OF RULES ON SAFEGUARDS WOULD PROVIDE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SHOULD BE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL TO COMMUNITY IN THIS CONTEXT.

5. NORGAARD INDICATED INTEREST IN HAVING FURTHER DISCUSSIONS ( PRESUMABLY DURING HIS WASHINGTON VISIT) ON MANNER IN WHICH STATE TRADING COUNTRIES SHOULD BE HANDLED IN MOVEMENT TO REDUCE TRADE BARRIERS GENERALLY. HE SAW THAT MUTUAL GRANTING OF MFN WOULD NOT BE TRUE RECIPROCITY AND AGREED THAT OBTAINING FREER ACCESS FOR WESTERN BUSINESSMEN OFFERED PROMISE. HE WISHED TO EXPLORE THE QUESTION FURTHER AND WAS PARTICULARLY DESIROUS OF FINDING WAYS TO AVOID COMPETITIVE CONCESSIONS BY US AND EC.

6. BECAUSE OF LACK OF TIME, THIS MESSAGE WAS NOT RPT NOT CLEARED WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMSTRONG. DUNNIGAN

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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BRUSSELS  
EC BRUSSELS UNN  
DUBLIN  
GENEVA  
THE HAGUE  
LONDON

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